processes the data input blocks (e.g., as 9-bit blocks in the example discussed with reference to Fig. 3). Each block is used to index a matrix A in the table (408). As long as more input blocks remain for processing (410), a stage 412 updates M ($M \leftarrow A \cdot M$). Once all input blocks are processed (410), a stage 414 determines the final hash value (such as discussed with reference stage ~~310~~110 of Fig. ~~3~~1).

<u>Substitute the paragraph [00109] at page 25, with the following:</u>

00109
[~~0046~~]   Any number of program modules can be stored on the hard disk 616, magnetic disk 620, optical disk 624, ROM 612, and/or RAM 610, including by way of example, an operating system 626, one or more application programs 628, other program modules 630, and program data 632. Each of such operating system 626, one or more application programs 628, other program modules 630, and program data 632 (or some combination thereof) may implement all or part of the resident components that support the distributed file system. Example of program modules and data is discussed below with reference to Fig. ~~22~~6.

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RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

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